

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 086264

71

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 PPT-02 SCA-01 EB-11

COME-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-10 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 /125 R

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5/7/73 EXT 21774

APPROVED BY AF/ N: HIODELL

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P 072117 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CPAS, LY

SUBJECT: LIBYAN PASSPORT PROBLEM

1. DEPT INFORMED BY NUMBER OF US COMPANIES THAT LARG HAS NOW REINSTITUTED SAME FIVE CATEGORIES OF EXEMPTIONS FROM REQUIREMENT THAT PASSPORTS BE IN ARABIC WHICH WERE FIRST ISSUED LATE LAST DECEMBER AND ON THE BASIS OF WHICH MOST BUSINESSMEN WISHING TO VISIT LIBYA WERE ABLE TO DO SO UNTIL APRIL 28. ON THE BASIS OF THIS INFORMATION, AT LEAST ONE OIL COMPANY (OASIS) HAS TOLD ITS SINGLE EMPLOYEES NOW OUT OF THE COUNTRY TO ATTEMPT TO RETURN. BECAUSE OF UNCERTAINTY WHETHER EXEMPTIONS WILL BE APPLIED TO DEPENDENTS OF PERSONS EXEMPTED, COMPANY HAS TOLD MARRIED EMPLOY-
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EES TO REMAIN OUTSIDE OF LIBYA UNTIL SITUATION CLARIFIES.

2. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH COMPANIES, WE HAVE SAID THAT WE HAVE HEARD THAT CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF TRAVELERS SUCH AS ILL-DEFINED "GUESTS OF LARG" HAVE BEEN EXEMPTED FROM NEWLY -REINFORCED" REQUIREMENT FOR ARABIC IN PASSPORTS, BUT OUR IMPRESSION WAS THAT REQUIREMENT STILL BEING GENERALLY ENFORCED FOR MOST TRAVELERS, INCLUDING RETURNING EXPATRIATE RESIDENT BUSINESSMEN. ROGERS

ED TO BE SPECIALIST IN PATHOLOGY)
AND DIRECTOR HEALTH SERVICES (CURATIVE), HEALTH MINISTRY. MINISTRY SOURCES EXPECT HE WILL SOON GET PROMOTION TO BETTER (UNNAMED) POSITION. KHALEQUE IS MAN WHO FOLLOWS ORDERS BUT WHO HESITANT TO ACT WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. SECRETARY OF HEALTH MINISTRY HAD EXPECTED TO ATTEND WHA BUT KHALEQUE GOING IN HIS STEAD. REASON FOR SWITCH UNKNOWN.

3. OTHER MEMBER DELEGATION IS WALIUR RAHMAN, HEAD OF BENGALIEE MISSION IN BERN. UNKNOWN TO US HERE. PERHAPS AMEMBASSY BERN CAN GIVE US READING ON HIM.

4. IF RAHMAN EXPERIENCED DIPLOMAT, SUGGEST POLITICAL ARGUMENTATION FOR SUPPORTING US ON ISSUES AT HAND BE DIRECTED PRIMARILY TO HIM. MANNAN UNLIKELY BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND POLITICAL SUBTLETIES INVOLVED BUT MUST NOT BE IGNORED LEST HIS FEATHERS BECOME RUFFLED. KHALEQUE WILL PROBABLY LISTEN TO ARGUMENTS WITHOUT MAKING ANY COMMITMENT UNTIL SOMEONE TELLS HIM WHAT TO DO.

5. BELIEVE AMONG MOST TELLING ARGUMENTS TO USE WITH BENGALLEES ON KOREAN QUESTION ARE FOLLOWING: SOUTH KOREA RECOGNIZED BD YEAR AGO AND NORTH KOREA HASN'T YET. NORTH KOREA CLOSE TO PRC WHICH BLOCKED BD ACCEPTANCE TO UN. SOUTH KOREA HAS SUPPORTED BD MEMBERSHIP IN VARIOUS UN BODIES. SOUTH KOREA SIGNED TRADE AGREEMENT WITH BD LESS THAN FORTNIGHT AGO WHICH HOLDS OUT PROSPECT SOME KOREAN AID FOR BD. FINALLY, BANGLADESH SHOULD NOT EQUATE HER SITUATION VIS-A-VIS PAKISTAN WITH NORTH AND

SOUTH KOREAN DISPUTE. BECAUSE OF ITS OWN TRAUMA IN BEING BLOCKED FROM UN MEMBERSHIP (WITH PAKISTAN SUPPLYING CHINESE LEVER), BANGLADESH TENDS TO BE SYMPATHETIC TOWARD ALL COUNTRIES SEEKING MEMBERSHIP IN UN AND UN BODIES. SEE PARA 2 DACCA 1815 FOR COUNTER ARGUMENTATION THIS LATTER POINT. FINALLY, BANGLADESH MAY BE INFLUENCED BY STANDS WHICH PAKISTAN, INDIA AND USSR TAKE ON THIS ISSUE.

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PAGE 03 DACCA 01998 080147 Z

6. AS TO 25 PERCENT CEILING ON CONTRIBUTION, ARGUMENTATION
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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NATO
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